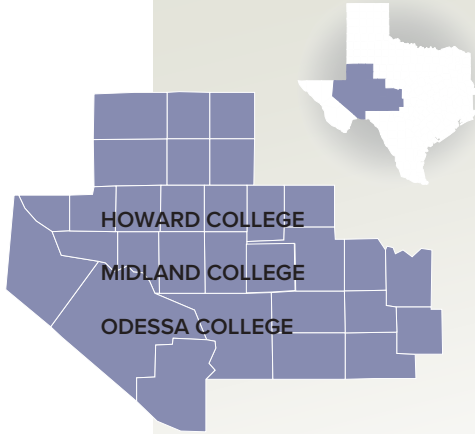


TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGES

WEST TEXAS REGION



Created to expand Texans' access to higher education, the state's 50 community college districts serve a vital role in our state's economy by developing our workforce, preparing students for further academic study and meeting the specific educational and vocational needs of the local areas they serve.

The 30 counties in the West Texas region — one of 12 economic regions defined by the Comptroller's office — include three community college districts.

REGIONAL IMPACT OF
COMMUNITY COLLEGES'
SPENDING, 2019

EMPLOYMENT

2,345

OUTPUT

\$253.7 MILLION

COMPENSATION

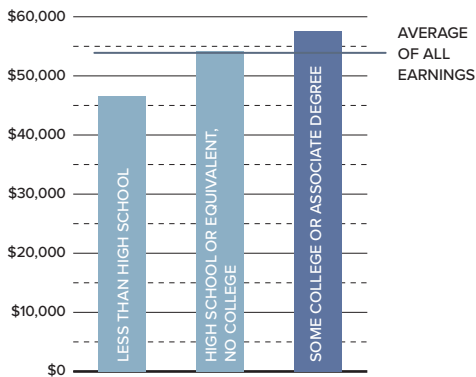
\$130.9 MILLION

NOTE:
THESE ANALYSES
PREDATED THE
COVID-19 CRISIS AND
THE ECONOMIC
IMPACTS THAT
FOLLOWED.

Note: Figures include direct, indirect and induced economic impacts.
Sources: JobsEQ, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas community colleges.

WAGES BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, WEST TEXAS REGION, 2018



Source: JobsEQ

Community colleges provide their students with a good return on investment.

In 2018, workers in the West Texas region with some college or associate degrees and stable jobs earned an average of \$3,331 more annually than high school graduates.

AVERAGE WAGE INCREASE OVER HIGH SCHOOL OR EQUIVALENT

\$3,331

NUMBER OF WORKERS, SOME COLLEGE OR ASSOCIATE DEGREE

76,276

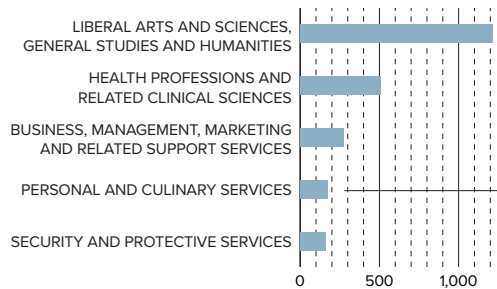
TOTAL REGIONAL ADDITIONAL WAGES

\$254.1 MILLION

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, JobsEQ and Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

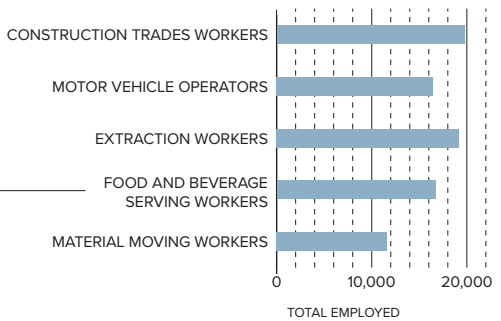
TOP CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES, WEST TEXAS REGION, 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR



The West Texas region's community college districts awarded more than 1,200 certificates and associate degrees in general studies and liberal arts in the 2017-18 school year; the next most-common award areas were health professions and business administration.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS, WEST TEXAS REGION, 2014-2019



Source: JobsEQ

SUMMARY

Community colleges play a vital role for students and businesses by offering postsecondary education and job training at great value. As the West Texas region's three community college districts work to address local skills gaps and meet the needs of area employers, they support more than 2,300 jobs and add nearly \$254 million in economic output annually. Furthermore, the higher pay of those with some college or an associate degree helps raise total wages in the region by another \$254 million per year.

SPOTLIGHT HOWARD COLLEGE

- The SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, a Howard College campus, is the only community college setting for the deaf and hard-of-hearing in the country.
- Howard College plays a key role in training in the area of health professions to address regional skills gaps and put graduates to work in the community as first responders, nurses, phlebotomy technicians, EKG technicians and more for daily and emergency health care.
- Howard College maintains a dental hygiene program to prepare hygienists in the West Texas area and a dental lab technician program for its deaf students.
- Howard College works to prepare student inmates at the federal prison to have new lives and trade skills such as building construction and heating, air conditioning and ventilation upon release.

TO SEE INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND THE TEXAS ECONOMY: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/colleges/>

Glenn Hegar

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts